

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A method of validating an operation during a call set up between first terminal and second terminal via a digital telecommunication network, said call using a first logical channel of a digital multiplex link including ~~another~~ at least said first logical channel and a second logical channel to carry data, said method comprising the following steps

- during said call, setting up a link between said second terminal and a third terminal via said network at the request of said second terminal to request validation of said operation, then setting up a link between said first terminal and a third terminal via said ~~other~~ second logical channel of the digital multiplex link,
- transferring between said first terminal and said third terminal via said ~~other~~ second logical channel, confidential data not accessible to said second terminal for validating said operation effected during said call between said first terminal and second terminal, and
- sending an acknowledgement message confirming the validation of said operation from said third terminal to the second terminal.

2. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein said

digital telecommunication network is an ISDN network and said step of setting up said link between said first terminal and said third terminal includes opening a virtual circuit on a signaling channel.

3. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein said digital telecommunication network is an ISDN network and said link between said first terminal and third terminal uses a data channel.

4. (Canceled)

5. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein said step of setting up said link between said second terminal and third terminal includes opening a virtual circuit on a signaling channel.

6. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein said link between said second terminal and third terminal and said call between said first terminal and second terminal are multiplexed on the same physical medium serving said second terminal from said network.

7. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1, further comprising, after said second terminal has received said acknowledgement message, a step of setting up another link between said second terminal and first terminal by

opening a virtual circuit on a signaling channel.

8. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein said first terminal is a mobile radio telephone terminal and said digital telecommunication network is a digital radio telephone network and said step of setting up said link between said first terminal and third terminal uses a short message service available on said radio telephone network.

9. (Currently amended) An arrangement of terminals including a first terminal, a second terminal and a third terminal, said arrangement being adapted to validate an operation during a call set up between said first terminal and second terminal via a digital telecommunication network and using a first logical channel of a multiplex digital link including ~~another~~ a second logical channel to carry data,

during said call, a link being set up between said second terminal and said third terminal via said network at the request of said second terminal to request validation of said operation, a link being set up between said third terminal and said first terminal via said ~~another~~ second channel of said multiplex digital link, confidential data not accessible to said second terminal being exchanged between said third terminal and said first terminal via said ~~another~~ second channel for validating said operation effected during the call between said first terminal and second terminal, and an acknowledgement message confirming validation of said operation being sent from said third terminal to said second terminal.

10. (Previously Presented) The arrangement of terminals according to claim 9, wherein said first terminal is that of a user, such as a customer, and said second terminal is that of another user, such as a vendor, so that said operation validated during said call between said first terminal and second terminal is a telepayment effected by said user of said first terminal to the benefit of said user of said second terminal and validated by said confidential data exchanged between said first terminal and third terminal.

11. (Previously Presented) The arrangement according to claim 10, wherein said third terminal is a terminal of a bank which manages an account opened by the user of said second terminal.

12. (Currently amended) A method of validating an operation during a call set up between first terminal and second terminal via a digital telecommunication network, said call using a first logical channel of a digital multiplex link including ~~another~~ a second logical channel to carry data, said method comprising the following steps

- during said call, setting up a link between said first terminal and a third terminal via said ~~ether~~ logical channel of the digital multiplex link,
- transferring between said first terminal and said third terminal via said ~~ether~~ second logical channel, confidential data not accessible to said second terminal for validating said operation effected during said call between said first terminal and second terminal,

- sending an acknowledgement message confirming the validation of said operation from said third terminal to the second terminal; and
- after said second terminal has received said acknowledgement message, setting up another link between said second terminal and first terminal by opening a virtual circuit on a signaling channel.

13. (Previously presented) The arrangement of claim 9 wherein said terminals are arranged so that after said second terminal has received said acknowledgement message, another link is set up between said second terminal and first terminal by opening a virtual circuit on a signaling channel.